

# NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS

# BOTANICAL LEAFLETS

ISSUE 17      SPRING 2016



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's been an interesting spring here in northern California. We are having wonderful cool temperatures with rain and snow in the mountains. Quite a contrast to last spring with the extreme drought! I helped teach a Plant Families workshop in April for the Friends of the Chico State Herbarium. We collected flowers in the Sacramento Valley as well as along Highway 70 in the Feather River Canyon. I also helped with the Siskiyou Wildflower Show in Yreka sponsored by the Klamath and Shasta Trinity National

Forests. This was Marla Knight's 23rd show and the last as a Klamath NF Employee. Enjoy retirement Marla!

After serving on the Board for 5 years, Jessica Hammond has stepped down. Thank you for all your hard work Jessica!

NCB has completed it's review of the 2016-2017 research scholarship applications. We received numerous fantastic applications which made it hard to make the selections! We will be awarding 10 scholarships

this year at \$1,000 each. Two of these were awarded with money provided by the Shasta and the Sacramento Valley Chapters of the California Native Plant Society. In addition, Julie Nelson donated her stipend for teaching a workshop for the Siskiyou Institute which allowed for one more scholarship. What a wonderful collaborative effort!

Have a wonderful summer pursuing your many vast botanical adventures.

Linnea Hanson  
President

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## WELCOME TERESA SHOLARS TO THE NCB BOARD!

Northern California Botanists is pleased to announce the appointment of Teresa Sholars to the Board. Teresa is Professor Emeritus of Biology & Sustainable Agriculture, College of the Redwoods. She is currently working on treatments for *Lupinus* for the Flora of North America and the Flora of Arizona and current projects include mapping and studying the Pygmy and Bishop Pine Forest. She serves as the rare plant and vegetation chair in her local CNPS Dorothy King Young Chapter and has presented at past NCB Symposia. Welcome Teresa!

## MYSTERY PLANT



This shrub or small tree has deciduous alternate, compound leaves. Flowers develop into samaras, winged all around. The fruits (as well as fine stems and undersides of leaves) are dotted with aromatic glands. This is the only species in its genus that is native to California, but a few other family members occur in the state, and are even cultivated for food. This plant is found in woodlands up to about 1000 m in northern and central California.

Photo by Robert Fischer

(Answer on Page 2)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
WELCOME TO THE BOARD	1
MYSTERY PLANT	1
NCB 2017 SYMPOSIUM	2
THANK YOU 2016 SPONSORS	2
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS	2
2017 KEYNOTE SPEAKER	3
2016-2017 SCHOLARSHIPS	3
BOTANISTS IN ACTION	4
NATURALIST AWARD	5
SISKIYOU FI WORKSHOPS	5
FRIENDS OF CSH WORKSHOPS	5

## NCB 2017 SYMPOSIUM—SAVE THE DATE!

The NCB Board is busy planning the next symposium to be held on January 9-10, 2017 at the California State University in Chico. Optional workshops will be held on the 11th. The theme of next year's symposium will be "Diverse Environments: How Plants Succeed" and will include sessions on the Great Basin, Plants in the Fog, Insects on Plants, Seeds, Endemics, And

Now the Good News, and New Discoveries.

For the last session on Monday, we plan to have a half hour of six lightning talks with each talk only 5 minutes long. That was a very successful feature we added to the program last year. A request for lightning talks will be sent out in late summer or early fall so watch your emails and the NCB website for

more detail!

The Reception will again be held on Monday evening in Colusa Hall because of restrictions in the Bell Memorial Union (BMU). Colusa Hall is just a few minutes walk from the BMU. The poster session will be on Tuesday morning. Poster authors will be present to answer questions. Coffee and breakfast food will be available also.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS

Thank you to our many 2016 Symposium sponsors!

- Bureau of Land Management, California State Office
- California Invasive Plant Council
- California Native Grasslands Association
- California Native Plant Society (State Office; Redbud, Sacramento Valley, Shasta, and Yerba Buena chapters)
- The Chico State Herbarium
- CSUC, College of Natural Sciences
- CSUC, Dept. of Biological Sciences
- ENPLAN
- Friends of the Chico State Herbarium
- Garcia and Associates
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- Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
- Ray Collett Trust
- Santa Barbara Botanic Garden
- Sierra Pacific Foundation
- Southern California Botanists
- Stillwater Sciences
- Jepson & University Herbaria, UCB
- Westervelt Ecological Services
- WRA, Inc.

More information about sponsoring the 2017 Symposium will be available on our website soon or by contacting [ncbotanists@gmail.com](mailto:ncbotanists@gmail.com) now. Sponsorship helps keep registration rates low and supports student attendance. We can't do it without your support.

## NCB INVITES YOU TO PRESENT A PAPER OR POSTER AT THE 2017 SYMPOSIUM

The Northern California Botanists invite you to share your work at the 2017 Symposium. We have openings for speakers in the "New Discoveries" and "And Now the Good News" sessions. Four or five talks will be selected for each session and will be twenty minutes each (15 minutes for the talk and 5 minutes for questions). Please let us know if you would like to be a presenter in one of the sessions by July 10, 2016 by emailing

[ncbotanists@gmail.com](mailto:ncbotanists@gmail.com) and include: title of the talk, presenter's name and affiliation, which session you are interested in, and a paragraph describing

your subject. An abstract will be requested later if your talk is accepted.

The New Discoveries sessions at past NCB Symposia have been very popular. Talks at this session commonly involve new species, but may also include re-discovery of species previously thought to be extinct, new understandings of a species' (or group of species) identification or its distribution, changes in management resulting from changes in understanding, and other similar topics.

The "And Now the Good News" session at the last NCB Symposium was also very popular. Talks at this session last year included successes in conserva-

tion of several rare species in northern California, mapping of a plant community as a critical step towards successful conservation, and an important correction to boundary of a distinct northern California geographic subdivision. Our designated poster session will be Tuesday morning and will allow poster presenters to interact with symposium attendees. More information will be available on our website in September.

Please consider presenting a poster. You can view abstracts from previous year talks and from posters presenters in previous year Symposia programs at: <http://www.norcalbotanists.org/>

## DR. HUGH SAFFORD—2017 SYMPOSIUM KEYNOTE SPEAKER

We are happy to announce that Hugh Safford will be our 2017 Keynote Speaker. Hugh is the Regional Ecologist for the USDA-Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region and also holds a research position in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of California, Davis. His areas of professional expertise are restoration ecology, community ecology, biogeography, and distur-

ance ecology. Hugh manages the Forest Service's Regional Ecology Program, a staff of ecologists that provide expertise in vegetation, fire, and restoration ecology, climate change, inventory, and monitoring to land management and planning efforts on the National Forests in the Pacific Southwest Region. He is also the manager of the Regional Research Natural Area program, the Sierra Nevada region leader for the

California Fire Science Delivery Consortium, and a member of the science advisory boards for a number of environmental collaboratives and Non-Government Organizations. Hugh also works internationally and provides technical assistance on fire, forest management, and climate change issues to the US-Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Program of the Forest Service.

## 2016-2017 STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Northern California Botanists provides monetary scholarships for students doing research on botanical subjects in northern and central California. Both the Sacramento Valley and Shasta chapters of CNPS generously support this program by funding an additional scholarship each. We received 30 applications this year and as usual there were many great research projects to choose from. Abstracts and photos of each recipient and project will be included in our Fall newsletter. Congratulations to these ten students and thank you to all that submitted applications!

### 2016-2017 NCB RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Recipient	Degree Program	College	Title of Research Project
Temitope Israel Borokini	PhD	University of Nevada, Reno	Genetic diversity, distribution modeling, and soil seed bank density studies on threatened <i>Ivesia webberi</i> Gray.
Amanda Blue Everett * Shasta Chapter CNPS Scholarship*	MS	California State University, San Diego	The Phylogeny of <i>Pogogyne</i> : an Evolutionary Assessment using ddRADseq.
Jacob Francis	PhD	University of Nevada, Reno	Do nectary plants make good neighbors? Facilitation and competition between pollen rewarding plants and their communities.
John Mola	PhD	University of California, Davis	Colorful pollination competition between native and invasive co-flowering legumes.
Devon Picklum	PhD	University of Nevada, Reno	Is pollination facilitated by multi-trait floral similarity in two alpine plant species?
Katherine Ross	PhD	University of California, Santa Cruz	Physiological sensitivity of eastern Sierra Nevada conifers to climate change.
Stephanie Saffouri	MS	San Francisco State University	The impacts of an invasive <i>Limonium</i> species on a native congener in San Francisco Bay.
Kristen Shive	PhD	University of California, Berkeley	Detecting conifer regeneration patterns across a gradient of high severity.
Karen Tanner	PhD	University of California, Santa Cruz	Impacts of renewable energy development on annual plant seed banks and aboveground community composition.
Michelle Tran	Undergrad	Mills College	Drought and loss of genetic diversity: implication for a rare endemic plant in a rapidly changing climate.



## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BOTANISTS IN ACTION

A continuing series that highlights well-known to possibly less-well-known botanists, with photographs from the present to several decades back. Please share unpublished pictures of northern California botanists: send jpegs and information to [rschlisling@csuchico.edu](mailto:rschlisling@csuchico.edu)

**John Hale** is a consulting botanist and lifelong member of the California Native Plant Society. He has worked with the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, the Modoc National Forest, and with various environmental consulting firms before starting his own consulting business in Chico. He is shown here doing a botanical survey for a transmission-line project in the Tahoe National Forest. John has a tremendous master's thesis on the biology of *Proboscidea louisianica* to his credit in the library at Chico State.



**Evan MacKinnon** comes to Northern California from Anza Borrego State Park with excellent botanical knowledge and skills. He now works at the Red Bluff office of Department of Water Resources as a water-quality monitoring Environmental Scientist, but assists on all major botany efforts (surveys, other monitoring). He is shown here locating minute plants of the rare *Cryptantha crinita* in the bed of Elder Creek (Tehama County). (Photo by B. Castro)



**Tom Nelson**, (deceased), is shown in 2004, pressing plants in BLM land in the Big Bend Area of Shasta County. He was a specialist on "The Lassics" in Humboldt and Trinity Counties, with a master's thesis about the area, done at Humboldt State. He found a good number of new plants, and described new taxa in *Ivasia*, *Linanthus*, *Madia* and *Minuartia* (e.g., *Minuartia decumbens*, the Lassics sandwort). (Photo by J. Molter)



**David Bowden**, originally from Grants Pass, Oregon, is the new District Botanist in the Happy Camp/Oak Knolls Ranger District of Kamath National Forest. While now a professional botanist, he has had very diverse jobs (e.g., dealing with whitebark pines, wolverines and cultural resources) with several agencies in Washington and Oregon before moving to Northern California (with his dog, Lily).



## REX BURESS—LOCAL NATURALIST RECEIVES CONSERVATION LEGACY AWARD

Rex Buress, Oroville naturalist and newspaper columnist was awarded a Conservation Legacy Award by the John Muir Association on John Muir's 178<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day. The event took place at the John Muir historic house in Martinez, California.

Rex worked for more than 30 years at the Lake Merritt Wildlife Refuge in Oakland before retiring to Oroville in

1993. He helped to establish the Feather River Nature Center in the 1935 stone bathhouse along the river. He is presently a docent for Oroville city parks, a part-time nature docent guide for California State Parks at Lake Oroville, and has led nature walks at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area and the Snow Goose Festival of the Pacific Flyway.

Rex writes the column "River Watcher" in the Oroville Mercury-Register and

"Natural Wonders" which runs in the Oroville Mercury-Register and Chico Enterprise-Record newspapers. He is also a gifted painter with more than 30 one-man shows to his credit.

Muir was Buress' inspiration. His mission became "to entice others to look at nature's loveliness with understanding" through nature walks, writings and art.

Congratulations and Thank You Rex!

## SISKIYOU FIELD INSTITUTE—2016 SUMMER WORKSHOPS

The **Siskiyou Field Institute** will hold a field workshop on the botany of a relatively undescribed area of the Shasta Valley. *Pursuing Plants of California's Eastern Klamath Foothills*, June 7-9, with Julie Nelson, Shasta-Trinity National Forest Botanist will explore the Shasta Valley's rich floral diversity. This area's treasure trove of rare plants, has recently been nicknamed the "Shastapalooza." Students will be on the lookout for rarities including *Orthocarpus pachystachus*, *Ivesia pickeringii*, *Balsamorhiza lanata*, and *Phacelia greenei*. You will learn how to voucher collected plants and a lab identification

session will be held on Thursday, June 9. The instructor's honorarium will be donated to Northern California Botanists botany research scholarship fund to fund an additional 2016-2017 scholarship. Thank you Julie and the Siskiyou Field Institute!

Two tuition options: \$300 includes two nights lodging at the serene Flowing Waters Retreat Center at Mt. Shasta in Stewart Springs. \$225 is the commuter tuition.

The **Siskiyou Field Institute** will also sponsor a botany and butterflies foray to Mt. Eddy and environs on July 8-10,

2016 with Dana York and John Vilella. Mt. Eddy's unique high-elevation serpentine is home to many rare plants including the Mt. Eddy sky pilot, carnivorous California pitcher plant, and Mt. Eddy draba. *Flora and Butterflies of the Mt. Eddy Area* will involve a day-long botanizing hike up to the Mt. Eddy summit on Saturday, July 9, and butterfly i.d. hikes and observation in nearby wildflower-rich meadows on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Contact the Siskiyou Field Institute, <http://www.thesfi.org/index.asp> 541-597-8530 for more details.

## FRIENDS OF THE CHICO STATE HERBARIUM—UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

The **Friends of the Chico State Herbarium** have three workshops scheduled for June and July. These will be held on the Chico State Campus from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on dates listed for each workshop. For more information, visit: <http://www.friendsofthechicostateherbarium.com/>

*Butte County Butterflies and Their Host Plant Affinities* will be held on Thursday, June 9, 2016. This workshop will be taught by CSU, Chico entomology professor Don Miller and will cover an introduction to butterfly systematics, taxonomy, and biology and their evolutionary and biogeographic aspects.

*Introduction to the Willows of California (Salicaceae)* will be held on Saturday 25, 2016 and will be led by willow expert John Bair. This workshop will focus on vegetative growth characteristics that are useful in making identification and regional distributions of the different species.

*Introduction to Native Bees as Pollinators* will be held on July 14, 2016 and will be taught by Rob Schlising and Robert Irwin. This workshop will showcase native bees for people who like nature, and those who are involved in land management and conservation. An optional follow-up fieldtrip will be held on July 15th.



photo by John Whittlesey

A male valley carpenter bee (*Xylocopa varipuncta*), robbing *Collinsia tinctoria* of nectar. Entomologists and others "in the know" sometimes refer to these large, harmless male bees as "teddy bears." The all-black females do the same robbing of *Collinsia*, but are probably important pollinators of many plant species in the Valley and foothills.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
BOTANISTS

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Chico, CA 95927-8042

*Save the Date!*

*2017 NCB Symposium*

*CSU Chico*

*January 9–10, 2017*

*With optional workshops  
on the 11th*

*Check our website in Sep-  
tember for more infor-  
mation*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Student/Limited Income \$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Family or Small Business/Non-Profit (two memberships) \$40.00

In addition, I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Northern California Botanists  
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